

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

5 Sub A1 1. A device for entering a character string comprising:
an input part for entering a character string;
an input situation acquiring part for acquiring a situation for
entering a character string;

10 a situation control part for affirming a dictionary used for generating
a candidate character string or a part of such a dictionary in accordance with
a situation acquired with the input situation acquiring part and designating
it as a situation-optimized dictionary;

15 a candidate character string generation part for generating and
outputting an output candidate character string that is optimal for the
situation in response to a character string that is entered with the input part,
using the situation-optimized dictionary designated by the situation control
part;

a candidate character string affirmation processing part for
affirming the outputted candidate character string; and

20 an affirmed character string storing part for storing a character
string that has been affirmed with the affirmation processing part in the
situation-optimized dictionary designated by the situation control part.

2. The device for entering a character string according to Claim 1,
wherein situations acquired by the input situation acquiring part comprise
at least one information selected from the group consisting of

25 information relating to a character string processing device to which
the output candidate character string is given;

information relating to a text that the character string processing
device, to which the output candidate character string is given, can output;

30 information relating to a position in a text that the character string
processing device, to which the output candidate character string is given,
can output;

information relating to a processing mode with which a character
string that has been given to the character string processing device is

processed.

3. The device for entering a character string according to Claim 1, wherein the situation control part selects the situation-optimized dictionary
5 from a plurality of dictionaries, in accordance with the situation that has been acquired with the input situation acquiring part.

4. The device for entering a character string according to Claim 1, wherein the situation control part changes a method for generating the
10 situation-optimized dictionary from a plurality of dictionaries, in accordance with the situation that has been acquired with the input situation acquiring part.

5. The device for entering a character string according to Claim 1, wherein
the affirmed character string storing part stores a storage date of an affirmed character string as a last-access date when storing the affirmed character string;
the date when a character string that is already stored is accessed is
20 used to change the last-access date; and
after calculating, from the stored last-access date and the current date, a period of time that a character string has not been used, character strings which have not been used for a certain period of time are deleted from the situation-optimized dictionary.

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6. The device for entering a character string according to Claim 1, wherein the affirmed character string storing part divides an affirmed character string into units of a necessary lower limit, which can be optimized.

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7. The device for entering a character string according to Claim 1, further comprising a situation-optimized dictionary production part for producing a situation-optimized dictionary by treating character strings

that are used in a pre-existing electronic text in the same manner as affirmed character strings.

5 8. A method for entering a character string comprising:
entering a character string;
acquiring a situation for entering a character string;
affirming a dictionary used for generating a candidate character
string or a part of such a dictionary in accordance with an acquired situation
designating it as a situation-optimized dictionary;
10 generating and outputting an output candidate character string that
is optimal for a situation in response to an entered character string, using
the designated situation-optimized dictionary;
affirming the outputted candidate character string; and
storing an affirmed character string in the situation-optimized
15 dictionary.

20 9. A computer-readable recording medium storing a program, to be
executed on a computer, the program comprising steps for:
entering a character string;
acquiring a situation for entering a character string;
affirming a dictionary used for generating a candidate character
string or a part of such a dictionary in accordance with an acquired situation
designating it as a situation-optimized dictionary;
25 generating and outputting an output candidate character string that
is optimal for a situation in response to an entered character string, using
the designated situation-optimized dictionary;
affirming the outputted candidate character string; and
storing an affirmed character string in the situation-optimized
dictionary.